

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1876.]

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
OUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 13th February, 1875.

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**POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).**

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the 4th February complains much of the difference observed in the reception of European and Native officials of the same rank and standing by the great men of the day. The writer considers this particularly observable during the tour of a Governor-General or a Lieutenant-Governor, as only the carriages of Europeans are permitted to pass up the grand entrance to the camp. The writer thinks it possible that the sentries on duty are to blame for this, but that at the same time Government should take steps to remove an evil so generally complained of.

A correspondent of the *Oudh Akhbar* of the 5th February condemns the policy of passing cases over to honorary magistrates for trial, "the result of which is so keenly felt by the public." The writer brings to notice the loose way in which this work is done at Ajmere by the honorary magistrates. There is great delay in the decision, as very little time is devoted to such work; moreover, these functionaries refuse to look into any case in the absence of any one of them. If they are questioned concerning their neglect to redress the wrongs of the people, they merely laugh and say,—  
"We do not receive any wages for our labour, and merely work to oblige the Government."



The *Atalik-i-Hindi* of the 6th February noticing the staff corps, some comments on which appeared in the *London Times*, calls it a disease, and adds that at present some 1,100 officers are drawing large sums of money for doing no work. The editor strongly condemns this extravagance on the part of Government, and recommends it to put a stop to the waste of so much money, and spend it on more profitable work.

The *Rajputana Social Science Congress Gazette* of the 5th February approves of the suggestion of a correspondent from London of branding officers and men in the military service, from the Commander-in-Chief down to the common soldier, on the hands and back with a royal mark. The writer considers that if such an arrangement is carried out it will be easy enough to catch deserters.

The *Hindu Prakash* of the 6th February recommends to the notice of Government the advantages of planting trees on the roads of Gujranwala and Hafizabad, as travellers are greatly inconvenienced for want of shade.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 9th February publishes an article under the heading "The Native Army." The writer remarks that all the talk on this subject, which occupies the columns of the English papers, regarding the insufficiency of the native army for Hindustan, with the prospect of a war with Afghanistan, and the question as to what Government would do, displays a great want of policy, and is not right, because there are no grounds for alarm, and such writing is calculated to spread disaffection. "The native army is only kept up as a help to the Europeans, and the forces of Government are quite sufficient to protect all Hindustan in case of a disturbance. Where then is the necessity of Government keeping up an army to war with Russia? When the time comes it will be sufficiently early to think of acting. Still it behoves Government to be in some measure prepared to meet the emergency." With reference to the foregoing, the editor is of



opinion that the English press is ever lively in its imaginings and gives vent to false ideas, and then hints at disturbances looming in the distance.

The *Rohilkhand Akhbar* of the 6th February reports a case of dacoity on the road to Sipapur, some seven miles from Lucknow. "This band of twelve men is said to have attacked several parties travelling at night, and had it all their own way, although the police station could not have been more than a mile from the scene of action. The police went to the spot in the morning and commenced inquiring into the affair."

In another para. the writer suggests the plan of keeping a daily journal ("roznamcha"), similar to that which is kept in the Railway Department, for the purpose of noticing down the public grievance, and adds that this rule should be also observed in the different thanas—a boon which would be most gratefully acknowledged by the general public, as Government would be enabled to see things in a clearer light than it does at present.

The *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 10th February condemns the policy of framing new rules and arrangements in the Panjab, and adds that in this province they have become so voluminous that "we cannot recognize them in any other light than trifling. Power, save in civil cases, has been removed from sudder amins. In the same way sessions judges have only power to act in criminal and civil cases, none whatever in revenue cases. When such power is removed from hakims, it is only natural to expect that they should lose much of their right to the title." The writer adds that sanction has arrived in the Panjab, but it will only increase the trouble and inconvenience to the people. "We cannot understand," he says in conclusion, "what flaw there is in the existing rules that Government should put them aside. There is no doubt that the new arrangement



will heap debt upon debt on the Government, and add considerably to the trouble of the ruled."

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 12th February says that the rāises of Rajkot have petitioned the Government to construct a metal road into their country, and promised to remit for ten years Rs. 64,000 yearly.

The *Maksud-ul-Akhbar* for the 1st week of February notices] that a party of Khojas (Musalmans), of the city of Wazirabad, have formed a committee with the intention of having all cases settled by it, in order that none of their brethren should appeal to an English court of law on pain of a fine.

The *Agra Akhbar* of the 10th February publishes the letter of a correspondent begging upon the Government the necessity of increasing the Province of Oudh and establishing a Lieutenant-Governor over it. The writer adds that owing to the numerous chief commissionerships that are in the country, the work must have greatly increased in the offices of the Government of India, and it would be well to do away with the appointments of chief commissioners in the Central Provinces and Ajmere and establish a Lieutenant-Governor in Oudh. The writer also recommends that in each of these divisions a separate university be founded. Doubtless by this move there will be a great saving in the Government expenditure, and other good results to the country will arise therefrom.

#### POLITICAL (FOREIGN).

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 5th February writing on Baroda affairs says, that some people affirm that Colonel Phayre took action against the Maharaja with the view of having him displaced, and the writer hints that even the poisoning of himself was all planned beforehand for the purpose of dethroning the Maharaja, who, having no reputation in this world, it was not difficult to ruin entirely. The editor says he entirely disagrees in thinking that such an able well educated hakim could not stoop to such a step.



A case of highway robbery at Tonk is noticed. The marriage procession of a mahajan was proceeding to the village of Dhuwan, when, approaching the small village on the boundary of the Tonk state, the party was attacked by a band of armed men. Several persons were wounded, and property carried off to the value of Rs. 500 with which they got clear off.

The *Urdu Delhi Gazette* of the 6th February, on the authority of a correspondent from Alwar, says,—“Now-a-days there is a report afloat that the Thakur Laghudhir Singh has had a hint that unless he presents his *nazar* to the newly installed Raja, his jagir may be attacked and other signs of Government displeasure be made manifest. A clerk of the agency has been appointed tutor to the Maharaja Jaswant Singh, son of the late Maharaja, and has received orders to remove from the fort, and betake himself into the city of Alwar. The writer thinks that it would be far better if the Government would send this boy to the Government school at Ajmere, and spare him this disgrace.

The *Patiala Akhbar* of the 8th February, alluding to Baroda in common with other native papers, is of opinion “that the crime of poisoning the resident has not up to this been proved against Malhar Rao, and, in the absence of proof, it does not appear just to depose a chief of the Maharaja’s standing, because the lowest criminal has the privilege allowed him of clearing himself from a charge of the kind before he is punished. This opportunity was denied the Maharaja of Baroda; and we would direct attention to the fact that if Malhar Rao is desirous of engaging counsel to assist him he is powerless to do so, since all his treasure is in the hands of Government; moreover, he is not permitted to see any friends. The common report of Malhar Rao’s deposal has had the effect of making his people to disregard him, and he is in every way restricted. If Sir Lewis Pelly was under the impression that the arrest and imprisonment of



Malhar Rao might have created a disturbance, that idea could have been dispelled when the proclamation was read out, and when Malhar Rao declared himself innocent and said that he was made the victim. Finally, we would urge upon the Government the necessity of taking a more favourable view of Malhar Rao's conduct, in having shown his readiness to submit so quietly to the orders passed on him."

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 12th February gives his ideas upon the commission about to be formed at Baroda. The Maharaja Jang Bahadur, Wazir of Nepal, being in Bombay, the writer thinks it not unlikely that he will form one of the members, and the writer approves of the selection of such an independent chief. He also suggests that Sir William Muir, "so noted for his merciful and just disposition," should be appointed President of the said committee, or, failing him, the Governor of Bombay; and, with so many wise and just members, the writer thinks that it may be possible to lessen the great desire the Gaikwar possesses of taking the case up before Parliament. "Finally, we would suggest that the trial be made as public as possible, and the Gaikwar's friends and party be allowed the freedom of giving their opinions in order that nothing should remain untried."

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the 11th February gives its opinion in Colonel Phayre's poisoning case thus:—"When such clear motives for Colonel Phayre's enmity exist against the Gaikwar, it is not at all out of place for certain people to suspect that this gentleman administered the poison with his own hands in his glass, and caused a letter to be written by some one in the Maharaja's name also, for hatred and enmity can stoop to even more than this. And as Colonel Phayre was an appointed resident by the English Government in the court of the Gaikwar, his committing himself with such malice only brings the *onus* the more on the head of the Government, for in this state of things the real criminal was Colonel Phayre himself and not the Maharaja."



## COMMERCIAL.

(Railways.)

The *Hindu Prakash* of the 6th February, in its correspondence columns, brings to notice among other complaints the very unfair way of dealing on the line of railway between the station of Lahore and Wazirabad. He says that Europeans and raises can easily obtain tickets to enable them to proceed by train, but the poorer classes although quite willing to pay the fare cannot do so. The writer begs the Government to enforce the order for the transit of travellers generally by railway—a comfort which will be greatly appreciated by the public.

## EDUCATIONAL.

The *Rohilkhand Akhbar* of the 3rd February, with reference to "Female Education," states that the Director of Public Instruction in Oudh is of opinion that in that province, as in most others, women are greatly influenced in their actions by men, hence the great decline in respect to female education. The editor adds that this state of things does not stop here, and if the Director of Public Instruction thinks that the education of women in Oudh is a piece of useless extravagance, it ought to be applied as a general rule, and henceforth all females be excluded from its benefits.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Muir Gazette* of the 4th February gives currency to a strange rumour—viz., that a new deity has come into existence (of the Sonthal caste) in Madras, and his fame is spreading so wide and fast that many of the residents have quite resigned themselves to the worship of this new deity; but the police are on the look out after him.



The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report :—

| No. | NAMES OF NEWSPAPERS.                       | LANGUAGE.       | LOCALITY.  | WHEN PUBLISHED. | DATE.      | DATE OF RECEIPT. |
|-----|--------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|
| 1   | Gwalior Gazette,                           | Urdu and Hindi, | Gwalior,   | Weekly,         | 1875. 31st | 1875. 8th        |
| 2   | Nasim-i-Jaunpur,                           | Urdu,           | Jaunpur,   | Ditto,          | Feb. 2nd   | 8th              |
| 3   | Akhbar-i-Am,                               | Ditto,          | Lahore,    | Ditto,          | " 3rd      | 8th              |
| 4   | Rohilkhand Akhbar,                         | Ditto,          | Moradabad, | Bi-weekly,      | " 3rd      | 8th              |
| 5   | Muir Gazette,                              | Ditto,          | Meerut,    | Weekly,         | " 4th      | 8th              |
| 6   | Akhbar-i-Alam,                             | Ditto,          | Ditto,     | Ditto,          | " 4th      | 8th              |
| 7   | Mayo Memorial Gazette,                     | Ditto,          | Delhi,     | Tri-monthly,    | " 5th      | 8th              |
| 8   | Oudh Akhbar,                               | Ditto,          | Lucknow,   | Bi-weekly,      | " 5th      | 8th              |
| 9   | Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Panjab,                 | Ditto,          | Lahore,    | Weekly,         | " 5th      | 8th              |
| 10  | Atalik-i-Hind,                             | Ditto,          | Ditto,     | Ditto,          | " 6th      | 8th              |
| 11  | Koh-i-Nur,                                 | Ditto,          | Ditto,     | Ditto,          | " 6th      | 8th              |
| 12  | Meerut Gazette,                            | Ditto,          | Meerut,    | Ditto,          | " 6th      | 8th              |
| 13  | Nur-ul-Anwar,                              | Ditto,          | Cawnpore,  | Ditto,          | " 6th      | 8th              |
| 14  | Urdu Delhi Gazette,                        | Ditto,          | Agra,      | Ditto,          | " 6th      | 8th              |
| 15  | Sadadarsha,                                | Anglo-Hindi,    | Delhi,     | Ditto,          | " 8th      | 8th              |
| 16  | Marwar Gazette,                            | Urdu and Hindi, | Jodhpur,   | Ditto,          | " 1st      | 9th              |
| 17  | Rajputana Social Science Congress Gazette. | Urdu,           | Jaipur,    | Ditto,          | " 5th      | 9th              |
| 18  | Hindu Prakash,                             | Ditto,          | Amritsar,  | Ditto,          | 6th        | 9th              |
| 19  | Mufid-i-Am,                                | Ditto,          | Agra,      | Bi-monthly,     | 1st        | 10th             |
| 20  | Lauh-i-Mahfuz,                             | Ditto,          | Moradabad, | Weekly,         | 5th        | 10th             |
| 21  | Khair Khwah-i-Alam,                        | Ditto,          | Delhi,     | Tri-monthly,    | 5th        | 10th             |
| 22  | Akmal-ul-Akhbar,                           | Ditto,          | Ditto,     | Weekly,         | 7th        | 10th             |
| 23  | Muhibb-i-Hind,                             | Ditto,          | Meerut,    | Ditto,          | 1st week,  | 10th             |
| 24  | Jalwa-i-Tur,                               | Ditto,          | Ditto,     | Ditto,          | " 8th      | 10th             |
| 25  | Urdu Akhbar,                               | Ditto,          | Delhi,     | Ditto,          | " 8th      | 10th             |
| 26  | Dabdaba-i-Sikandari,                       | Ditto,          | Rampur,    | Ditto,          | " 8th      | 10th             |
| 27  | Oudh Akhbar,                               | Ditto,          | Lucknow,   | Bi-weekly,      | " 9th      | 10th             |







